

JANUARY 2024

THE SOUNDS OF FAIR VIEW

A Monthly Publication of Fair View United Methodist Church

IT'S A JOURNEY

BY REV. NATHAN FINSEL



No path worth taking starts at its end.

Instead it's the many choices from here and now til then that make the path worth its trek.

Long before there was a sense of accomplishment.

Long before you were found victorious or knew the bitter pains of defeat.

You had that small step, though it may have seemed excruciatingly small, it was the start of something new.

That small step whether uphill with mountains before you or on flat grounds seemed to stretch on to eternity beyond.

You did not know the journey you would take or what sharp turns that it would take. How could you know of the dry places you would venture through?

How your tongue would cry out in Thirst?

Where was He, who set you out on this journey into the unknown?

Was He there in a fiery pillars or clouds of smoke?

Was He there in with mana from heaven?

Yes He was.

But more so then these moments where His hand was evident in grand gestures.

It was the gentle moments with His hands held out,

Like a parent teaching their little one to walk for the first time.

He held you up showing you each foot placement as we learn the weight of each small step.

When you were ready to try it alone, He held his hand out, bracing each moment to catch you when you fall.

Our minds were not tainted by fears, worries or pain. We walk into the journey of life fearless, worry-free and unburdened with the hard lessons learned.

Somewhere in the journey, we ask to run free and lost sight of His gentle hands showing next steps.

Before we knew it we had run a marathon on roads never meant to trod.

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IT'S A JOURNEY

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You see, no path worth taking starts at its end. It starts with every step in between that first step and then, when in the darkest night, we in fear and panic reach out to find, His hands right there, in the spaces between; His gentle voice calling through our cold and tattered heart, urging us each day to step a little closer.

As we wander in the deserts of own design, He came to walk with us. He stepped where our feet trod. As the sun beat down on us, He journeyed our roads. He showed us his steps. He leads us down paths worth taking. Paths He walks with us. And when bridges are burned and roads fail, He becomes the road and bridge to get back to path worth taking.

As we begin a new year, I challenge you to look at your journey thus far. You may be up there in years or just starting out. Either way, examine your relationship with God. Look honestly at the places you've wandered and places you have walked through. How have you been lead in the journey thus far, by your own will or God's will? In what ways has God's directed your steps? What are some of the ways to more readily follow His lead?

We are starting a new year with new possibilities. What steps can you actively take to start this year down the right path with Jesus at the lead?

Your Pastor and Brother in Christ,
Nathan Finsel

Fair View United Methodist Church
1430 Mecklenburg Hwy
Mooresville, NC 28115



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Senior Minister: Rev. Nathan Finsel
Office Manager: Jill Lowe
Music Minister: Joel Everett
Children's Ministers: Danyel Williams & Krystal Davis
Nursery Minister: Kimberley Stutts
Youth Minister: Patty Brotherton

Office Hours: Monday – Friday
9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.



connect:



FAITH STUDY GROUP

BY BRENDA HARVEY



Meeting Mondays @ 5:30-6:30PM
in Wesley

Couples and Singles are invited for study and fellowship each Monday. Typically, the group incorporates a six-week study that is a 30-minute video followed by questions & discussion.

Start the new year with us! We will resume the Max Lucado series In the Footsteps of the Savior, following Jesus through the Holy Land when we return January 8 after the holidays. All are welcome to join us anytime....January would be a great time to start!

stephen MINISTRY

Stephen Ministers are lay congregation members trained to provide one-to-one care to those experiencing a difficult time in life, such as grief, divorce, job loss, chronic or terminal illness, or relocation.

Stephen Ministers come from all walks of life, but they all share a passion for bringing Christ's love and care to people during a time of need.

2024 Stephen Ministry training will begin on Wednesday, January 10 from 9:30 am-12:00 noon and will continue weekly until the end of May.

If you are interested in participating in the training, please contact Kia Whittlesey at 704-999-1477.

UNITED METHODIST MEN

The UMM meets for a breakfast meeting every 2nd Sun. at 8:00 am in the church Fellowship Hall. All men are invited to attend.

The men met on Sun. Dec. 10, and following the meal, Eddie Brotherton opened the meeting with a prayer and a devotion. Several items were discussed.

Special thanks was extended to all who helped to provide pancakes & sausage at the Breakfast with Santa event on Dec. 2nd.



Care Kits are available from the bin under the rear portico and in the Narthex. Please carry a few in your vehicle when you cross paths with someone in need.



The next Roadside Pick-Up is scheduled for January 20.

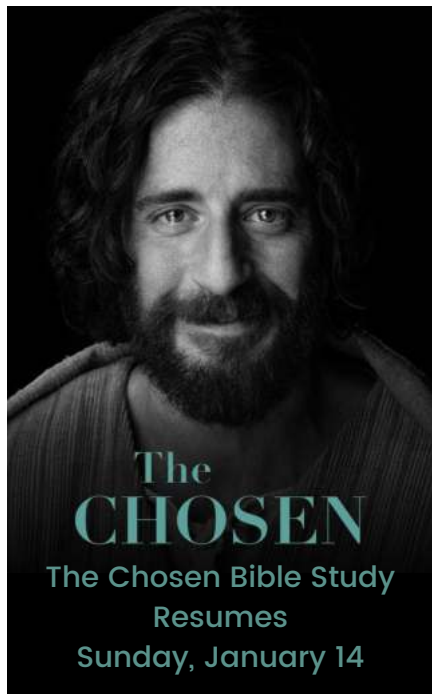
The UMM Hands and Feet Ministry is up and running. They are encouraged to find small projects for their group to do. To arrange for the Hands and Feet Ministry for small household or outside projects at the home of a senior, a request form can be submitted on the UMM webpage at fairviewumc.org/men or called into the church office.



UMM and their families are invited for a dinner event at Kickback Jacks on Fri. Jan. 5th at 6PM

The Men were reminded to be thinking about their nomination for the 2024 Man of the Year. The presentation is usually given in March.

Next UMM Meeting Sun.
Jan. 14 at 8AM in 204-A.



We will be viewing The Chosen, Season 3, beginning Sunday, January 14 following the worship service.

It doesn't matter if you haven't watched Season 1 or 2, the stories are familiar. If you have watched this season 3, join us anyway, much like reading scripture, each time it speaks to you in a different way.

We will meet in Wesley for 8 weeks. The videos run about an hour and we will have a brief discussion about the episode.

CROSS CONNECTIONS RESUMES

Our new Cross Connections contemporary prayer and worship service seeks to reach people where they are. The service, in conjunction with the community meal, is designed to give people a break in the middle of the week to come and spend time with God and other fellow believers.

All are invited to join us on Jan. 10 starting with the family meal at 5:30 and service follows at 6:30. We still need help during the meal time and continuing to spread the word by inviting your friends and family in the community.

If you are able to help in any way with this worthwhile ministry, please contact Pastor Nathan at nfinsel@wnccumc.net.

COMMUNION SERVANTS

We are thankful for our members who serve Fair View during Communion and to our homebound.

Communion Servants for January are as follows:



Winnie & Susan Donaldson
Cheryl & Ava Rogers

COMPASSIONATE CARING

FOCUS ON MENTAL HEALTH

SATURDAY JAN. 20 10:00AM - 3:00PM

FELLOWSHIP HALL 204A/B



Everyone who cares for someone who struggles with mental health issues is invited to attend this free event. We will hear from several professionals about anxiety, depression, loneliness, family dynamics and more. It is a chance to connect with others who may have similar experiences.

This event is open to the community inside and outside the church. Lunch will be provided.

Please contact the church office by Wed., January 17 if you wish to attend or need someone to stay with a family member so you can attend.

Sponsored by Fair View Stephen Ministers.



THE COMMUNITY IS INVITED FOR FAMILY
FELLOWSHIP DINNER FOLLOWED BY A
CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP SERVICE.

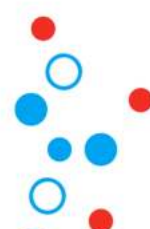
DINNER | 5:30PM (drop-in)

SERVICE | 6:30PM

#allarewelcome



FAIR VIEW UMC
1430 MECKLENBURG HWY
MOORESVILLE
fairviewumc.org



BOOK CLUB

BY BRENDA HARVEY

In January the Book Club will discuss Mrs. Oswald Chambers, who compiled her husbands teaching into the famous daily devotional In His Utmost Highest. Brenda Harvey will lead the discussion.

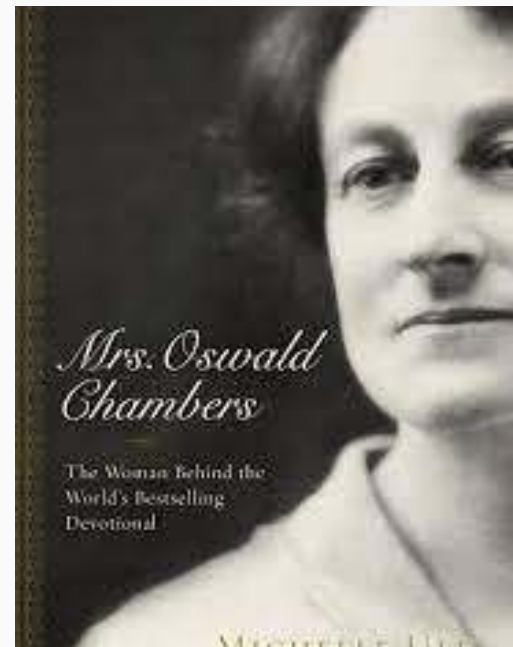
The group will also plan the schedule for 2024 reads. If you have been thinking about joining the group, bring your book suggestion in January!

We meet on the 2nd Monday evening following Faith Study in Wesley and begin about 6:45 pm.

Upcoming Studies

2nd Mondays at 7:00 in Wesley

January 9 Due to the November cancellation, the group will discuss Mrs. Oswald Chambers. Plan to bring your books suggestions for 2024!



CHOIR CELEBRATES CHRISTMAS WITH SONG

BY JANE TESTERMAN



The Fair View Choir boarded the bus after church on December 3rd to sing Christmas Carols and favorite Christmas songs to our friends at Crown Colony and church members who have difficulty attending church in-person.

What a great way to begin the Christmas season!



Charm is deceptive, and beauty does not last; but a woman who fears the LORD will be greatly praised. Proverbs 31:30 NLT

M.O.M. The Mission of Moms Bible Study

Meets every month on
2nd and 4th Mondays
6:00-7:00 in the
Fellowship Hall
Contact Danyel at
daniwilliams870@yahoo.com

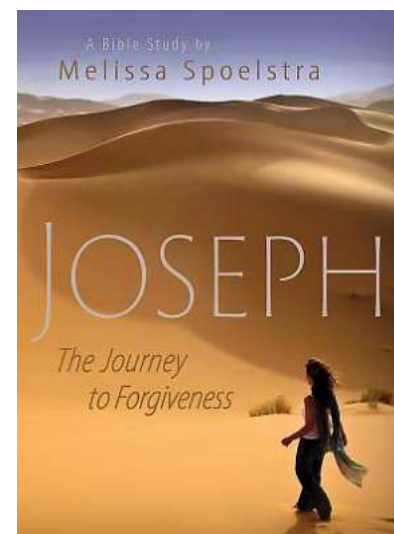
M.O.M. – The Mission of Moms Bible Study

New Study begins Mon. Jan. 8th

All of us know what it's like to be hurt or betrayed. Often it's a small breach such as being spoken to rudely or overlooked in a time of need. Other times we experience lies, gossip, or harsh words that cut us to the core. Some of us have endured unspeakable pain through abuse, adultery, or abandonment. God knows the pain we cause each other and longs to help us learn to practice forgiveness. Nowhere do we see forgiveness played out more fully in Scripture than in the biblical story of Joseph.

This six-week study explores what God has to say to us about grace and forgiveness through Joseph's story of trial and triumph found in Genesis 37-50. As we study his dreams, his betrayers, his dysfunctional family, his struggle to forgive, and his journey toward reconciliation, we'll find truths that echo into our own personal situations.

Find the link to the participant guide at www.fairviewumc.org/women.



If you have questions or need more information, please contact Danyel Williams (daniwilliams870@yahoo.com)

MOVERS AND SHAKERS

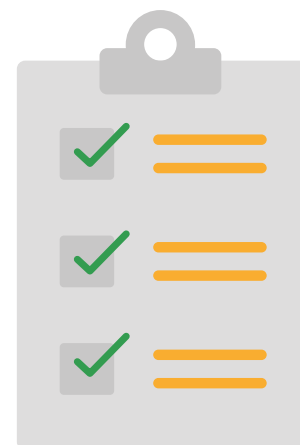
BY MARY STUTTS



On December 21st, we gathered in Wesley for a time of food and fellowship. We had lots of yummy food. Everyone that wanted to participated in the Dirty Santa game and went home with lovely gifts. And of course we had lots of fun fellowship.

Our next meeting will be on January 18th and we will once again gather in Wesley at 10 am. We will feast on soups and chilis and desserts. This will be our 2024 planning meeting, so bring any ideas of things you would like to do next year. Some meetings will be in town. Other meetings will be road trips, and we're open to lots of different adventures. We do like to stick to the 3rd Thursday of the month, so that we can plan appointments around the fun. That's about the only restriction we put on our food and fellowship. Please join us and let us know what you would like to do next year.

If you have any questions, please contact Mary Stutts at 704-664-4274 or MommaMary1@windstream.net. We hope you will join us for a time of fun and fellowship!



IN JANUARY, THE
GROUP WILL PLAN FUN
ACTIVITIES AND TRIPS
FOR 2024!

COME JOIN US!



SUNDAYS AT FAIR VIEW SUNDAY WORSHIP at 10:00AM



**AGAPE SUNDAY
SCHOOL CLASS**
11:00AM IN ROOM 204-A

Youth
11:00AM IN CHAPIN




2nd SUNDAYS
8:00AM IN 204A

WEEKLY HAPPENINGS

FAITH STUDY
MONDAYS
5:30PM IN WESLEY

UPPER ROOM
WEDNESDAYS
11:00AM IN WESLEY

 **CHOIR**
WEDNESDAYS AT
7:00PM

BOOK CLUB
2ND MONDAYS
6:30PM IN WESLEY

STEPHEN MINISTRIES
2ND/4TH THURSDAY
7:00PM IN WESLEY

January

	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
31		CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED <i>Happy New Year</i>				UMM FAMILY GATHERING 6PM AT KICKBACK JACKS	
7		M.O.M. STUDY 6PM 204A		FAMILY FELLOWSHIP DINNER 5:30 CROSS CONNECTIONS 6:30			
14		CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED <i>MLK DAY</i>	Finance 7PM Zoom	STEPHEN MINISTRY TRAINING 9:30-12 IN 103	MOVERS & SHAKERS 10AM IN WESLEY		UMM ROADSIDE TRASH PICK-UP 7AM STEPHEN MINISTERS EVENT 10AM
21	VBS PLANNING MEETING 11:30 WORK ROOM	M.O.M. STUDY 6PM 204A		STEPHEN MINISTRY TRAINING 9:30-12 IN 103		FV KIDZ MOVIE NIGHT 6PM IN 204A	
28				STEPHEN MINISTRY TRAINING 9:30-12 IN 103			

SPECIAL EVENTS

HAPPY. Anniversary

Jan. 8 - Wayne & Tammy Glaze
Jan. 27 - Tim & Sheila Gibson

Volunteers needed

There will be a introductory VBS planning meeting on Sun. Jan. 21 immediately following service in the Work Room. All who are interested in helping with VBS are encouraged to attend.

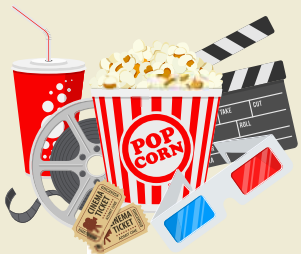
The Weekly View



Watch your inbox each Wednesday for the View from Fair View. This weekly newsletter regularly contains upcoming events and opportunities to serve the church and the greater Mooresville community.

FV KIDZ MOVIE NIGHT Fri. Jan. 26th

Save the date for a fun movie night on Fri. Jan. 26th. All children are invited to attend. Stay tuned for details!



Want to participate in the newly formed praise band?

See Pastor Nathan or Music Minister, Joel Everett to learn more.



Happy January Birthday

2

Melia Richardson
Tiffany Stutts

5

Lisa Coyle
J. C. Stutts

7

Chuck Bass
Patty Brotherton
Ellar Hicks

13

Dylan Hatch

15

Gaye Dunsmore

16

Amy Boling

19

Owen Stiel

22

Dorothy Goard
Lilly Stutts

25

Cindy Bell

27

Sara McMinn

29

Anna Dunsmore
Coleson Kistler

30

Kathy Schilling

Dates for birthdays and anniversaries come from the church database, so if there are any errors, please contact the church office.



2024 CHURCH LEADERSHIP

in late 2023, nominations were accepted and voting was held to approve the following individuals as our 2024 church leadership. If you have specific needs or concerns in any particular area, please reach out to any of these individuals.

We thank them for accepting their positions to help guide Fair View in the year ahead.

CHURCH COUNCIL

Chair – Alan Donaldson
Recording Secretary – Karen Caldwell
Chair of NOW Ministries – Kathy Schilling & Ellar Hicks
Chair, Trustees – Elaine Willeford
Chair, SPRC – Michael Haire
Chair, Finance – John Gustafson
Rep. United Meth. Men – Eddie Brotherton
Women of Fair View – Brenda Harvey
Youth Representative – Ava Rogers
Lay Leader (Serves on all committees) – Todd Danner
Lay Delegate, Annual Conference – Alan Donaldson & Alternate Jane Testerman
Church Treasurer – Mary Stutts
Tech Team Chair – Carl Willeford
At Large Members – Sara Tice & Jean Newman

LAY LEADERSHIP

<u>2024</u>	<u>2025</u>	<u>2026</u>
Tammy Glaze	Ann Goode	Brenda Harvey
Cheryl Rogers	Judy Donaldson	Ellar Hicks

TRUSTEES

<u>2024</u>	<u>2025</u>	<u>2026</u>
Peggy Jones	James Williams	Tom Gray
Elaine Willeford (Chair)	Bill Hicks	Mark Gurley

STAFF PARRISH RELATIONS (SPRC)

<u>2024</u>	<u>2025</u>	<u>2026</u>
Brenda Agan	Barry Boling	Mandy Wright
Kathy Schilling	Carrigan McCann	Michael Haire (Chair)

TECH. TEAM

Carl Willeford (Chair)
Alan Donaldson
Susan Donaldson
Kimi Stutts
Bill Hicks
Bob Newman
John Gustafson
Addisyn Finsel
Carrigan McCann



UPPER ROOM PRAYER GROUP



Each Wed. at 11:00 a.m. in Wesley, attendees meet with prayers and scripture before reading/discussing the current Upper Room devotional.

Our structure follows morning worship service from red hymnal with the reading of a Psalm, followed by prayers for Fair View, those suffering, our community, our country, the world, the church universal and communion of saints.

AGAPE CLASS

The Agape Class continues meeting immediately after service in the Fellowship Hall. Contact Jean Newman (jlnewman063@gmail.com) if you have questions or would like more information about the class.

COMMUNION FOR HOMEBOUND

If you, or someone you know, is homebound and would like to request one of our Communion Servant to administer Communion, please call the church office to schedule a time. Communion Servants have been trained to administer communion and are Stephen Ministers and Congregants. We appreciate their service to the church body.

MEALS ON WHEELS

The Fair View church volunteers each Thursday delivering Meals on Wheels. Many are widows or widowers, some in ill health and dealing with disabilities or aging restrictions. We would ask you to keep them in your prayers as we have ministered to their needs and have developed friendships.

If you would like to join this ministry, contact Judy at judithdonaldson@windstream.net.

FAIR VIEW KIDZ



Danyel Williams & Krystal Davis
Contact: fairviewkidz@yahoo.com

"THE LORD WILL INDEED GIVE WHAT IS GOOD, AND OUR
LAND WILL YIELD ITS HARVEST."

PSALM 85:12

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY



Ages 3-5 years
experience the Bible
in fun and exciting
ways! Using a high-
energy and creative
curriculum, children
also enjoy fellowship
with their peers!

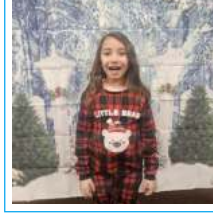


Kidz Kindergarten -
5th grade enjoy fun
and interactive
studies using age
appropriate crafts,
videos and object
lessons to study the
Word as they grow in
faith with their peers.

BREAKFAST WITH SANTA



On Saturday December 2nd, FV Kidz hosted the 7th Annual Breakfast with Santa, welcoming 50 people and 25 kids into the church for a pancake breakfast provided by the United Methodist Men and a visit from the Big Man himself.



Following the breakfast, a Santa mailbox was placed outside of the office where children in the community were invited to "mail" their letters to Santa with the anticipation of receiving a personal letter back from him before Christmas.



Over 20 letters have been sent to children from Davidson to Mt. Ulla with an invite to attend upcoming services at Fair View. All families who attended Breakfast with Santa also received an email invite to upcoming Advent services.



On Friday December 15th, children gathered for a Polar Express movie night in the Fellowship Hall complete with a Hot Cocoa Bar and Golden Bell.

During the event, we also practiced being like Jesus when we helped pack Winter Break food bags for the Coddle Creek Backpack Ministry.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY JESUS



During Children's Church on Sunday December 24th, we celebrated the reason for the season with the all of the kids by having a Happy Birthday Jesus party in a combined Children's Church class.

MISSION OUTREACH



CROWN COLONY OUTREACH

For the month of January we will be collecting personal hygiene items for Crown Colony Nursing Home.

Crown Colony at Mooresville is an adult care home, which in the state of North Carolina is a home that provides care, assistance with activities of daily living, supervision, and assistance with medication to seven or more residents. An adult care home may also provide care to residents with cognitive impairments.

Toiletry suggestions:

- Body Wash
- Bar Soap
- Toothbrushes/Toothpaste
- Deodorant
- Shampoo
- Razors
- Compression Socks



CHRISTIAN MISSION ANGEL TREE

In December, we were able to bless 53 children through the Christian Mission Angel Tree outreach!

Thank you for being a blessing to these children and their families!

BACKPACK MINISTRY FOOD BOXES



During the long Christmas break, we provided extra food for our now 21 Backpack children which included a \$50 Food Lion gift card to each of the families.

You can find the list of food items needed on our website. Your giving enables us to fill our pantry so that we always have food items to give.

Donated items can be left in Narthex or monetary donations earmarked Back Pack Ministry

THE SOUNDS OF FAIR VIEW

And God will generously provide all you need. Then you will always have everything you need and plenty left over to share with others.
2 Corinthians 9:8.

FINANCE UPDATE

By John Gustafson- Finance Committee Chair



Faithful Fair View,

Thank you so much for your generosity in 2023. We didn't quite make all of our expenses, but we were able to borrow from ourselves enough to fully meet our apportionments to the district, make payroll for the staff, keep the lights and heat on, and generally keep the church going.

Let's continue to pray that God will keep us going forward as the church that will lead our community to Him.

Your Finance Committee

THANK YOU! FOR THE GIFTS YOU GIVE TO KEEP OUR CHURCH FACILITIES ACTIVE AND THRIVING!

Finance Committee

2024

Vicki Gurley
David Ryon

2025

John Gustafson (Chair)
Rick Howard

2026

Heather Gray
Susan Donaldson

Ex Officio Members

Council Chair: Alan Donaldson
SPRC Chair: Michael Haire
Trustees Chairs: Elaine Willeford
Lay Leader: Todd Danner
Lay Delegate: Alan Donaldson/Jane Testerman
Treasurer: Mary Stutts

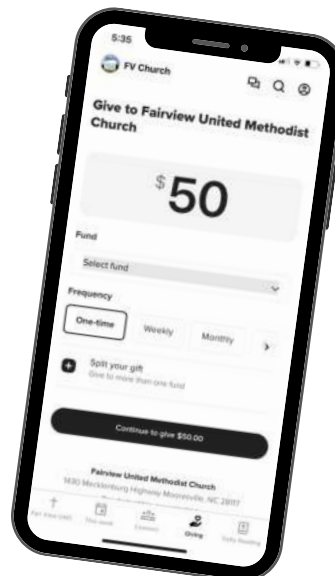
TXT2GIVE

Text **FVUMCgiving** to 1-888-364-4483 in order to receive a reply with the link to your giving interface. The code is not case sensitive.

If you already have a Subsplash giving account, you will be able to login and give immediately!

Don't have a Subsplash account, you can create one in seconds!

The privacy of your personal information is our first priority and is secure through our giving platform!





A big
THANK YOU goes
to Fair View from
Pack #173 and
Troop #173 for
facility use.

SCOUTING AROUND WITH CUB SCOUT PACK #173

By Bill Hicks



In December, the monthly Pack Meeting was held at the Coddle Creek Elementary School with recognition being given to the scouts that they had qualified for since the last Pack Meeting. Prior to Christmas, the scouts enjoyed shopping for presents for angels which they selected from the Fair View Angel Tree.

Also in December a Wolf Den (2nd graders) went on a tour of the Mt. Mourne Fire Department where they learned about the service provided by the firefighters. The firefighters demonstrated some of their gear to the scouts. The scouts also tried on some of the firefighters' gear.



January will be an exciting month as the scouts will be building their pinewood derby cars and racing them at the end of the month. An "Almost Anything Goes" race will be for the scout parents and also a "Sibling's Race". Also in January the scouts and their families will attend a county-wide Scout Vesper Service at the Rocky Mount Church.

On January 23rd, Cub Scout Pack #173 will celebrate its 54th year in existence. The present Pack leaders and scouts wish to thank Fair View for the years of support in the form of providing meeting facilities, the use of the Fair View's buses for transportation, leadership and most of all for your words of encouragement to the Cub Scout leaders and the Cub Scouts.

As a reminder, children in kindergarten thru 5th grade can join the Pack anytime during the year, Contact any scout leader you know or Bill Hicks at wchicks@hotmail.com or 704-650-1026.



Be sure to pass this month's newsletter on to a friend. You never know that might inspire them for a visit!



Fair View UMC
P. O. Box 27
Mt. Mourne, NC 28123

TO: